

NOT A HOLIDAY LIKE OTHERS

Significance of Christmas Is Not Lost; Its Spirit Enters Into Life of World.

It is not likely that all of the multitude of people who eagerly and anxiously prepare to celebrate Christmas day are conscious of its sacred character. They know of course that it stands for the anniversary of the birth of the Founder of the Christian religion, but that thought is not uppermost in their minds. To such, for the moment, it is merely a holiday in which they wish to give gifts to persons they care for and whom they wish to please. It is a period in which they forget themselves in order to give joy to others.

In this one thing, though they may not be aware of it, they demonstrate the teaching of the One whose day they observe, for unselfish thought for others is one of the great lessons taught by the Teacher of teachers who was born in Bethlehem of Judea centuries ago. There are Christmas givers today who make no sacrifice when they purchase rich gifts for family or friends; they know no self-denial, though it does not follow that they do not give all their hearts. But with the great mass of givers there is a setting aside of personal wishes and even urgent needs in order that those they love may be glad on that day of the year when all the Christian world rejoices. The self-sacrifice is as nothing compared to the end to be attained.

On the other hand, a multitude of men and women are spiritually aware of the character of the day. They look back across the centuries to the Child in the manger and see in the dawn of a new hope to mankind, a revelation of a new life, a bond between mortal existence and the hereafter that has given comfort to myriads and a light to the world that grows brighter with the passing of the ages. The gifts that they bestow and those they receive typify to them the greatest of all gifts to the world—the One who came to point the way to eternal life.

No Christmas for all its seeming frivolity and thoughtlessness is but a mere holiday like others. Even the light-minded and heedless ones realize a difference and it pushes to explain would do so reverently. Under all the hurry and confusion and anxiety of the preparations and the celebration the significance of Christmas is not lost. The meaning of the Great Event whose anniversary we observe cannot be escaped. Its spirit has entered into the life of the civilized world.—Indianapolis Star.

SPIRIT OF SOUL OF THE OAK

Mysterious Mistletoe, Growing From Sturdy Tree, Locked Upon by Druids as Holy Thing.

THE mistletoe season draws near. Many boughs or pendents of this mysterious and beautiful plant will be torn from oaks and other trees and suspended from chandeliers and doors.

Many myths are associated with the mistletoe. The Druids of Britain looked upon it as a holy thing. To them the oak tree had a strong religious significance and seeing the curious plant growing out of the oak they conceived that it was the spirit or the soul of that tree. In this way it is believed that the Druids came to regard the mistletoe as the symbol of life and they therefore treated it with manifest reverence and gave it a prominent place in their religious rites. It is also believed that the Druids held the mistletoe as sacred to Frayn, the goddess of love, and that this is how it came to be associated with love-making and kissing.

The old herbalists, the forerunners of the physicians, regarded the mistletoe as a thing having remarkable therapeutic properties. It was held to be good for epilepsy and for various convulsive "distempers." Many of our British and our Irish ancestors believed that the mistletoe was a charm against disease.

The mistletoe is a plant parasite, and yet not altogether a parasite. Though it would rather live off of the tree, it was the means of self-support. It fastens itself upon its host, penetrates its tissue and draws nourishment from it, often deforming it and sapping its vitality. Yet the mistletoe is a green, leafy plant; that is, it possesses the green pigment, chlorophyll, which gives the green color to normal vegetation. The presence of green leaves indicates that the mistletoe has the power, which independent green plants everywhere possess, of constructing organic foodstuffs, such as starch, out of inorganic compounds, carbon dioxide and water, utilizing sunlight as the source of energy in the process. It is, therefore, only partly a parasite so far as dependence upon its host for food is concerned, but it is none the less harmful to that account.

Dumplings for Stews.

One pint flour, 1/2 teaspoonful salt, 2 heaping teaspoonfuls of baking powder, sifted together four times.

Mix with one cupful of rich milk; drop by spoonfuls into the boiling stew; cover tight and do not open for 15 minutes, when they should be done. These may also be dropped on a buttered plate and cooked in a steamer over fast-boiling water, and served with stewed cranberries or any stewed fruit.

To Escape Envy.
A little girl ten years old declared she would like to live in the country, "because then I shouldn't see a lot of people having a lot of things I can't have."

New Books at Alma College Library

New Library books have been secured by the Alma College library as follows, and are now available for those desiring to secure them:

Ayres, L. B.—The public library and the public schools. 1916.
Beman, L. T.—Selected articles on the closed shop. 1922.
Bush Catterfield, pub.—Map of Flint, Michigan. 1917. Ref.
Cambridge History of India. v. 1. 1922. Ref.
Catholic Encyclopedia, Special edition for Knights of Columbus, in 17 vols. 1913-1922. Gift. Ref.
Chandler, A. C.—Animal parasites and human diseases. 1922.
Chase, L. A.—Rural Michigan. 1. 22 Chicago Tribune—The W. G. N. 1922.
Christianity and problems of today. 1922. Gift.
Cooper, W. S.—The broad-sclerophyll vegetation of California. 1922. Gift.
Depew, C. M.—Speeches and literary contributions at fourscore and four. 1918. Gift.
Dickinson, (Edward)—Music and the higher education. 1915.
Downing, E. R.—A naturalist in the Great Lakes region. 1922.
Doyle, A. C.—The hound of the Baskervilles. n. d.
Escher, Franklin—Elements of foreign exchange. 1920.
Fernald, H. T.—Applied entomology. 1921.
Frank, Tenney—Vergil—a biography. 1922.
Grabau, A. W.—Text book of geology. 1922.
Grumme, R. M.—Seneca, the philosopher and his modern message. 1922.
Hall, G. S.—Adolescence, its psychology. 1905. Gift.
Harrow, Benjamin—Glands, in health and disease. 1922.
Hart, H. H.—Plans and illustrations of prisons and reformatories. 1922. Ref.
Hartwell, S. O.—Overcrowded schools and the platoon plan. 1916.
Haughton, P. D.—Football and how to watch it. n. d.
Healy, T. M.—The great fraud of Ulster. 1917. Gift.
Howard, O. O.—Autobiography. 2 vols. 1907.
James, H. R.—Our Hellenic heritage. 1921.
Jessup, W. A.—The teaching staff. 1916.
Kellicott, (W. E.)—Chordate development. 1913.
Kuch, T. W.—Book of Carnegie libraries. 1917. Ref.
Lamprey, L.—Children of ancient Rome. 1922.
Levinger, L. J.—A Jewish chaplain in France. 1921. Gift.
Lippitt, L. C.—Personal hygiene and home nursing. 1918. Gift.
Lut, R. R.—Wage earning and education. 1916.
Maggs Brothers—Catalogues, nos. 428, 429, 430. Gift.

Moore, E. S.—Coal. 1922.
Muskegon, Michigan—Annual report, the Hackley Public Library. 1922. Gift.

Nares, Robert—Glossary of words, phrases, names and allusions. n. d. Ref.

New Hazell annual and almanack for 1921. Ref.

O'Neil, Eugene—Hairy ape; Anna Christie; The first man. 1922.

Parsons, M. P.—New poetry (Study outline ser.) n. d. Ref.

Pence, R. W.—Short stories by present-day authors. 1922.

Phelps, E. M.—League of Nations. 1919.

Porte, John—Edward MacDowell, his life and music. 1922.

Sargeant, C. S.—Manual of trees of North America. 1922.

Shaw, F. L.—The printing trades. 1915.

Showerman, Grant—Horace and his influence. 1922.

Sichel, Walter—Sterne, a study. n. d.

Smith, H. B.—A first book in logic. n. d.

South Manchurian Railway—Manchuria, land of opportunities. 1922. Gift.

Syers, E. & M.—Book of winter sport. n. d.

Symon, M. J. D.—The press and its story. n. d.

Terry, E. M.—Advanced laboratory practice in electricity and magnetism. 1922.

Thomson, J. A.—Outline of science in 4 vols. 1922. Ref.

University debaters' annual, 1921-1922. vol. 8. 1922.

Van Kleeck, Mary—Women in the bookbinding trade. 1913.

Warren, C. H.—Manual of determinative mineralogy. 1921.

Young, F. B.—Robert Bridges. n. d.

FOREST HILL

Mr. and Mrs. Glen Parsons left the first of the week for Florida to spend the winter.

Mr. and Mrs. Ted Bradt of Alma called on the latter's parents, Mr. and Mrs. S. T. Richardson, Sunday afternoon.

Miss Blanche Hamilton of Saginaw spent last week with her parents.

Little Waneta Robinson is on the sick list.

Mr. and Mrs. Gen Hall of Mt. Pleasant were the guests of the latter's parents Sunday.

Born to Mr. and Mrs. Leon Ges. Dec. 3, a son, Jack Murlin.

Mrs. Walter Hales and children of Coleman visited relatives in town the first of the week.

Mrs. R. O. Hunt entertained company from near St. Louis, Sunday.

Mr. and Mrs. M. M. Baner of Alma are visiting relatives in town this week.

Mrs. Opal Owen left Monday for a two weeks visit with relatives at Vestaburg.

Mr. and Mrs. Elmer Post spent Tuesday night with the former's brother, Otis, and wife at Vernon.

Mrs. R. N. Robinson has gone to New York state to spend the winter.

Don Hayes is the new manager of the Cream Station at this place.

Mr. and Mrs. I. A. Kilpatrick were in Kalamazoo on business last week.

Babylonian Hanging Gardens.

Professor Breasted and other orientologists say the Babylonian hanging gardens were roof gardens. They were on temples, palaces, and dwellings. Egypt had them centuries before Babylon. The half barbarian Greeks who first saw them called them hanging gardens and put them down as one of the wonders of the ancient world.

Circulation counts—we have it.

Hall's Catarrh Medicine

Those who are in a "run down" condition will notice that Catarrh bothers them much more than when they are in good health. This fact proves that while Catarrh is a local disease, it is greatly influenced by constitutional conditions.

HALL'S CATARRH MEDICINE consists of an Ointment which quickly relieves by local application, and the Internal Medicine, a Tonic, which assists in improving the General Health. Sold by druggists for over 40 years. F. J. Cheney & Co., Toledo, Ohio.

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We are the Cleaners and Dyers for this Community

STAR DYERS & CLEANERS

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AUTO OWNERS ATTENTION!

RULE ONE

Every Automobile Owner must present to the Branch Manager with the application for Automobile License Registration, a Certificate of Title for the car to be licensed which must in all respects conform to the application for Registration. Do not fill in the title number on your application for license plates, as this must be done by the Branch Manager. No license will be issued to any person not complying with this rule.

RULE TWO

In case you have a Certificate of Title to the car you desire to license, which has been properly assigned to you, but for which you have not yet secured your new title from the Secretary of State, the Branch Manager will issue your license provided only that you surrender this title to him and pay the transfer fee of \$1.00. The Branch Manager will send this transfer title to the Secretary of State with the fee and License Application and a new title will then be mailed to you.

RULE THREE

In case there is a variance between your application for Automobile License and your Title and your Title is found incorrect, which has happened in thousands of cases, owing to the careless manner in which Title application was made out, the Branch Manager will issue License Plates only upon condition that you surrender incorrect title to him, make out a correct application for Title and pay the fee of \$1.00. The Branch Manager will then send these papers to the Secretary of State, and you will receive a correct Title. Do not attempt to convince the Branch Manager the mistake in your Title was made by the State Department. The original application is on file at Lansing. Title was made out exactly as application on file.

RULE FOUR

Under no circumstance will any Branch Manager issue License Plates upon any but a new car even if the application for License is accompanied by an application for Certificate of Title, as the Law requires that all applications for Certificate of Title be checked against the Stolen Car File in this office. Under no circumstances will this rule be violated.

LICENSE PLATES ARE ON HAND.

Come early and avoid Delay

SHARRAR & WATSON

Branch Manager
ALMA, MICHIGAN

Let us all help make this a

Happy Christmas

Your Christmas Store is the store in which you place your confidence the whole year through.

Where you would prefer to do your own buying, THERE would you prefer to buy HIS gift. Here is a helpful list of suggestions of things for men, and young men during this CHRISTMAS SALE, and making selections now, leisurely and carefully will be much to your advantage.

Shoes
Gloves
Mittens
Suspenders
Sweaters

Mufflers
Hose
Ties
Belts



Jewelry of All Kinds
Comfy Slippers
Pants, Big Variety
Hats and Caps

Mackinaws
Underwear
Trunks and Suitcases
Shirts of All Kinds

Night Gowns
Handkerchiefs
Collars
Pajamas

I have an enormous line of Men's and Boys' Slip-Over and Button Sweaters, Sport Goods of all kinds, plain or combination colors, which make a very good appropriate Christmas gift. You will find them during this Christmas Sale at a very low price.

SEE OUR WINDOW DISPLAY

Square Deal Clothier & Furnisher

LOUIS ROCKSTEIN, Prop.

Look for the Square Deal Sign

Spend Xmas With The Alma Electric & Battery Co.

You will find that an electrical gift is really appreciated more than anything else you can give.

Below we list a few suggestions which if followed will surely make this a Merry Christmas.

A stand lamp is something that the whole family can enjoy.

A nice electric curling iron is sure to please sister.

Grandpa would be happy if he had one of our Cozy Glow Electric Heaters to toast his shins on.

Grandma needs an Electric Vibrator for her aches and pains.

Mother could get breakfast so much easier if she had one of our Electric Toasters, or perhaps a grill.

And brother would be tickled stiff with one of our flashlights.

We also have many other sound, serviceable gifts that are bound to please.

Don't forget to buy a set of our Christmas tree lamps early as they are going fast.

Alma Electric & Battery Co., Inc.

East of City Hall

ALMA, MICHIGAN